

The Southwester

Serving near SW, DC since 1964

www.swdc.org

July 2001

Circulation 10,000

FREE!



We Love A Parade SW Style

With the stirring sound of “Anchors Aweigh” by the U.S. Navy band and the stars and stripes waving from the U.S. Coast Guard color guard, Southwest was introduced to an hour of ceremony and fun along First St., P St., Fourth St. and M St. on June 2.

Young and younger, black and white, dignitaries, seniors, more than two dozen drummers and an assortment of decorated vehicles representing AARP, Cavaliers, SWNA, Westminster Church’s Jazz Night, and Voter Registration brought onlookers out to the streets in amazement. People along the route were electrified by the wonderful martial tunes and marching beat by the Navy Band, Dunbar High School’s Marching Band, and drumming units from Bowen and Amidon Elementary Schools.

Performances along the route by a clown and unicycle riders, Tae Kwon Do trainees, baton and flag twirlers and fancy stepping by marching units added to the display.

Jefferson Jr’s Math Counts and Science Clubs were joined by “Benjamin Banneker” dressed in his costume of the 1790s when he helped lay out the boundaries of the District of Columbia. Jefferson Jr. also had “High Steppers”, Social Science Club, English and even athletes in sweat suits. Kids on skates and bicycles came from Channel Square. Housing units with banners and signs included Syphax Gardens, Riverside Condominium and River Park Cooperative Homes.

It reminds us all of how lucky we are to live in a community that cares – Southwest Washington, D.C.

For photos turn to p. 4 and 5 of this issue and the photo gallery in the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly’s web site www.swdc.org. ■

S.W. Workshop Lists Priorities

The 80 or so Southwest residents who discussed local issues with Mayor Anthony Williams and his staff of planners and coordinators at an evening workshop at 65 I (Eye) St. S.W. gave highest priority to Housing, Safety and Schools.

Waterfront Development and “Youth Development/Community Programs” were close behind.

The participants were asked to identify “essential ingredients,” defined as “those community elements that are critical to building and maintaining a healthy and livable neighborhood.”

In assigning priority values to each item, the group gave 35 priority points to “Affordable/Diverse Housing,” 31 points to “Public Safety,” and 24 points to “Public Schools.”

On an open-ended request for suggestions for “action items,” there were 35 suggestions under those top three categories.

Names, addresses and telephone numbers were given for three “coordinators” working for the D.C. government. Residents of Ward 2 are encouraged to call them with problems and questions. They are:

Michael Bonds, Office of Public Advocate – 727-7985 – 441 4th St. N W, Suite 801 – E-mail: Michael.bonds@dc.gov.

Clark Ray, Office of the City Administrator – 727-8587 – Plymouth Apartment Building, 1236 Eleventh St. N W – E-mail address: clark.ray@dc.gov.

Chris Shaheen, Office of Planning – 442-7631 – 801 N. Capitol St. NE, Suite 4000 – E-mail address: chris.shaheen@dc.gov. ■

Buzzards Point Owners Face Restrictions

Because the D.C. Home Rule Act requires zoning to conform to the Comprehensive Plan, industrial uses on Buzzard’s Point should not be grand-fathered by zoning rules, but be considered non-conforming uses which have limitations. That is the opinion of the D.C. Planning Director Andy Altman.

The comprehensive plan for the District of Columbia requires mixed use residential on Buzzard’s Point.

At its July 9 meeting the ANC2D will consider comments it wishes to make about Buzzards Point rezoning at the July 19 meeting of the D.C. Zoning Commission. ■

Half-pints In Plastic Bags, ANC Urges

A Southwest liquor store has agreed to sell half-pints of liquor and single bottles of beer in clear plastic bags, at the request of the SW Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC2D).

At its June meeting the ANC received the agreement of the operators of Bernstein’s Reliable Liquor at 39 M St. S.W. to use clear plastic bags rather than brown paper sacks for these small items. It will be easier for the police to enforce the law against consuming alcoholic beverages in public.

Renewal of licenses by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division is often the basis for similar agreements suggested by neighborhood representatives, especially ANCs. ■

Capitol Hill Comes To The Waterfront

In September and November 2002, voters in Southwest and on Capitol Hill will now have the same ballot card on election day for selecting one of the thirteen members of the D.C. Council. We have always had the same list to choose from for the four at-large council members and Council Chair.

On June 19 the Council gave final approval to boundary lines for the 8 Wards – an exercise they must perform every ten years after the census figures are released. The 11,000 people in Southwest had been part of Ward 2, which included Downtown and Georgetown. Ward 2 had grown in population so much between the 1990 and 2000 census that it had to shed part of its territory in order to help make the 8 wards roughly equal in population. Ward 6 and several other wards had lost population in those 10 years and needed to gain some.

Because the new ward lines take effect in January, 2002, Southwest residents will no longer have Jack Evans as their ward council member. Ward 6 Council Member Sharon Ambrose will be our ward council member.

At-large Council Members Phil Mendelson, Harold Brazil, Carol Schwarz and David Catania, as well as Chair Linda W. Cropp, all were on city-wide ballots, and will continue to represent us on the council. ■

Inside

Community Calendar	2
Community Input Meetings	3
S.W. Parade Photos	4, 5
SW Split Between Ward 2, 6	7
NARFE Award	7
Parade & Oral History	8

“Community Input” Goes On And On And On

One measure of the intense efforts to create a vibrant Southwest might be the frequent opportunities for community input in planning.

The June 14, 2001, “Community Workshop” at 65 I (Eye) St. S.W. was the latest – but not the last – effort by the D.C. government to learn what the residents of Southwest want.

Future neighborhood meetings, we are told, will include:

- A. “action planning meetings” that “further define the action steps, timeline, responsibilities, and budget.”
- B. “One or two community meetings ...to finalize and validate the neighborhood plan.”

Not counting four similar meetings tied to the “Anacostia Waterfront Initiative”, the June 14 meeting is the fourth “workshop” or series of interviews conducted by Mayor Anthony Williams, his Department of Planning officials and various professional planners on contract with the city.

- I. The Mayor’s “Summit” at the D.C. Convention Center on Nov. 20, 1999, brought out 40 S . W . residents, who made a list of suggestions. (*The Southwester*, January 2,000, p. 1 and p. 5; Nov., 1999, p. 1).

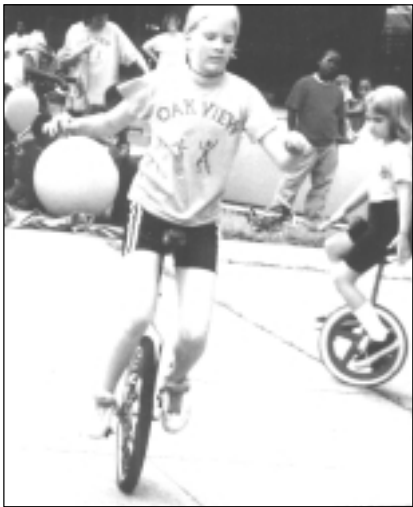
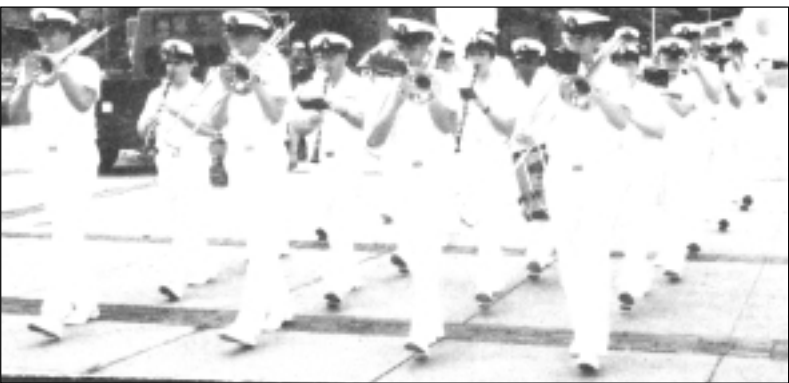
- II. The January 24, 2000, “S.W. Summit” at St. Mathew’s Lutheran Church – with 160 or so attending – was not organized by the city, but was facilitated by Lafayette Barnes and Joe Goldman of the mayor’s staff. Questionnaires ranked a dozen suggestions which had come out of the Mayor’s summit. (*The Southwester*, March, 2000, stories and pictures on p. 1, 2, 4, 5).
- III. The January 29, 2000, “Neighborhood Action Forum” at the University of the District of Columbia was more a reporting session than a workshop.
- IV. In September, 2000, D.C. Planning Director Andrew Altman arranged for S.W. residents to be interviewed by graduate students from M.I.T., who gave a preliminary report and later reported their suggested changes. (*The Southwester*, October, 2000, p. 1; May, 2001, p. 4).
- V. The June 14, 2001, workshop is described on page 1 of this issue. ■

Washington
Video

(new ad in
folder)

Bashoor Ad
from June

Scenes from the Southwest Parade





List Your Home With A Professional

*dale, tried to scan in photo. looks terrible! have printer strip in.

Iris Ralston

Your S.W. Neighborhood Realtor at

202-488-7132

Specializing in Condos, Coops and Townhouses, Property Management and Rentals

Licensed in DC, MD and VA

Iris Ralston

202-488-7132

Long & Foster



SEU President Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis hosted an open house and luncheon at S.E. University to kick off registration for the summer term.

In May Dr. Jarvis received a doctor of public service degree from George Washington University. GWU cited her years on the Council of the District of Columbia, where she introduced legislation to build the MCI Center and the new Convention Center.

Tiber Island Rated Units In S.W. Parade

Prizes for the local schools in the S.W. Parade have been given out by Tiber Island Cooperative Homes, the housing complex west and South of 4th and M St. S.W.

Jefferson Jr. and Bowen each received \$125 for books in their libraries. Amidon received \$50.

From a judging booth at the coop, several residents scored the marchers. ■

S.W. Kiwanis Club Forming

Men and women who work, live or have an interest in Southwest D.C. can become charter members of a new chapter of the Kiwanis International service organization.


Organizing meetings are being held for an hour each Monday from 6:30pm to 7:30 pm at Southeastern University, 6th and I (Eye) St. S.W.

Service projects could include mentoring, scholarships or other service projects as decided by the members. The Kiwanis motto is “Changing Tomorrows Today—Serving The Children of The World.”

Contact Willie G. Robinson, 1250 4th St. S.W. (W 808) – 488-3597, or Linwood Watson 581-8767. ■

It's Time to Help Your Neighborhood Buy an ad in

The Southwester



5K Walk On Capitol Hill

A 5K Walk and Street Fair will start at 914 Massachusetts Ave. N.E. Sunday, July 8 at 8 am (registration at 7:30 am).

As a benefit for summer youth programs, the Walk is sponsored by the Capitol Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church. (202-543-1344) ■

HIV Testing And Counseling At Shiloh Center

A new service has been added to the Day Care and other services at Shiloh Family Life Center, 9th & P St. N.W.

Confidential counseling and oral testing for the HIV virus is provided on a walk-in basis for no charge Wednesdays from 10am to 2 pm, at the lower level.

For information call (202) 232-4288, ext. 27. ■

Pizza Amore ad in folder



New traffic lights *have been installed at Delaware Ave. & M St. S.W.* The History Task Force noted that a SW civic association had called for a light there, (next to Bowen Elementary School) as long ago as 1947.

NARFE Award For Bob Zigler



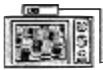
At a recent meeting of NARFE Bob Zigler held up his new certificate for the camera as singers from the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery looked on. Left to right are Zigler, Karen Rice and Larr Baldine. The songs were from the World War II period.

Southwest's Bob Zigler received the Distinguished Annuitant Award as the outstanding member of the local SW chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE).

He is treasurer of the local S.W. chapter of NARFE.

The award was presented by Jennifer Malazey of Blue Cross/Blue Shield. ■

WASHINGTON CABLE



Serving Southwest D.C. for over 20 years

Washington Cable vision is available at:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| Capital Park | Town Center |
| Carrollsborg | Plaza |
| The Lansburgh | Town Square |
| Market Square | Towers |
| River Park | Washington |
| Watergate | Harbour |
| Marina View | Waterside |
| Towers | Towers |
| Pennsylvania | |
| Plaza | |

No unsightly wiring in your apt. We use the existing wiring in your walls.

The best of cable TV at a reasonable price including:

CNBC, CNN, HN, ESPN, C-Span, BET, MTV, Discovery, A&E, and more.

THREE movie services are available:

HBO, SHOWTIME & THE MOVIE CHANNEL

Call (202) 646-1600 to order

Redistricting Splits Southwest Along Freeway

By Andy Litsky

Southwest community leaders got a surprise when the DC Council passed the ward redistricting bill recently. They had been told that near Southwest (west of the Anacostia River) would remain intact and in one piece.

Instead, the largely unpopulated area between the Southwest Freeway and the National Mall was divided from the residential area south of the Freeway. The residential area of Southwest becomes part of Ward 6. The commercial area north of the Freeway remains in Ward 2.

Unless the Council also changes the ANC boundary lines, this change means that Southwest residents who will be immediately adjacent to the commercial zone will have no formal say in what happens there, while residents on the distant side of the Mall will have the power to review what goes on there and to benefit from any development while suffering none of the problems or inconveniences that may develop:

Here are some of the issues that will be affected by the boundary change:

- BZA applications
- Zoning Actions
- New economic development: (Wax Museum site, the completion of the Portal Site; the old BP station at 4th & E SW, etc.)
- ABC licenses
- Outdoor Pay Phones
- Public Art in Public Space project at 12th and the freeway
- Traffic control questions
- Public Space permits (ANC 2D reviewed an application for installation of a guard house just north of the freeway and showed the applicants a (better) way to site it so it helped residents as well as building security)

- Bus routes and bus stops
- Special events (race car promoters once wanted to set a race in the commercial zone.
- General quality of life issues that you don't know about unless you are in the area.

These issues are subject to ANC review. But which ANC will have jurisdiction? The near Southwest ANC (now called "ANC 2D) or the one centered north of Pennsylvania Ave. NW?

"When the Washington Design Center expanded they agreed to a community participation program that called for employment of ANC2D residents, educational programs at Jefferson Jr. High, and scholarships for SW residents. Capitol Gallery had a similar program. If these developments were to occur next year after redistricting would those benefits go to Mt. Vernon Square residents instead?

"Southwest, through ANC2D and the Wiley Branton CDC, currently have an agreement with the current Portal Site developers for funding of community projects; when the hotel and the remaining office buildings currently has Portal Site. Will the future community funds stay in Southwest or will they be lost to north-west?

Why should residents of 7th and M NW have more say over what happens at the Portal Site (9th & E SW) or the Nassif Building (7th & E SW) than the residents of 7th and G SW? What sense does it make for the Shaw ANC to speak for the area instead of the Southwest ANC?

Ordinarily ANC boundaries do not cross ward boundaries. However, exceptions have been made in the past. The solution to this problem, therefore, would be for the Council to allow the near South-

west ANC to maintain its current northern boundary at the National Mall, instead of ending it at the new Ward 2/Ward 6 boundary at the Freeway. ■

Shhhh... You wouldn't want to let out DC's best kept secret!

Tiber Island Cooperative Homes, the city's premier waterfront community, is the place to live. A quick walk from Capitol Hill, the Mall, and downtown's attractions, Tiber Island is also convenient to major roads and Metro.

Planning an event? Then consider the beautifully renovated historic Thomas Law House — a Washington showplace for more than 200 years.

429 N Street, SW, WDC 20024 • 202-554-4844
visit our web site @ www.tiberisland.com



Contributors To Parade Thanked

By Margaret Feldman

The Parade Committee wants to thank the sponsors whose contributions made the parade possible:

East Coast Development Co. Inc. (Office of Business and Community Development)

River Park Friends, Inc., - donation of a sound system for use at the stage after the parade and to be used for SWNA, ANC, and Police Boys & Girls Club #4 events.

- WMC Management Company
- Apartment Showcase
- A.R.M.C.
- Winkler Pools, Inc.
- Arena Stage Theatre
- Safeway, Channel Inn, Hogates, Spirit Ships, and the D.C. Metropolitan Police Dept.

Special thanks to Alvin Hudgens of MPD Boys and Girls Club #4, my chief

operations manager. His coaches cooked and bagged the 700 hot dog lunches enjoyed by the participants of the parade and others. Blossom Athey supplied 350 popcicles. Thanks, too, to Dale MacIver, chief for publicity and administration.

Tiber Island for judging the marchers from the schools and providing prizes for the school libraries.

The Recreation Department and staff at King-Greenleaf for their assistance and use of their facilities.

The wonderful entertainment at the Showmobile after the parade: Tae Kwon Do demonstration, Circus acts by the Oak View Elementary Exhibition Club, and great fun with the demonstration of hand dancing and bringing the crowd into the Electric Slide – directed by Mr. Pope of Head To Toe. ■



S.W. Oral History At Millennium Art Center

By Margaret Feldman

Southwest neighbors enjoyed a heart-warming event Sunday afternoon, June 3. They heard the stories of S.W. residents who grew up in S.W.

Several people from the Jewish community told of their fond memories of their childhood when their parents owned stores on Four-and-a-Half St. or Seventh St.

African-Americans recounted their memories of those same stores and of their schools and the movie houses they enjoyed.

All agreed that they had a wonderful childhood in a diverse neighborhood where everyone felt part of the community.

Neal Peirce, who moved to Southwest after Urban Renewal, told how he and Joseph Latimore got together in 1963 to

organize the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly as a civic association for the new and old, black and white residents of the neighborhood.

To round out the presentations, Rebecca Rice of Arena Stage Theatre gave a dramatic presentation of real life stories as told to her by local residents as she gathered material for Arena's Southwest Project.

An extensive display of photos of Old Southwest was displayed by the Cavaliers.

A reception, donated by Hogate's and Safeway, included music by the Sons of Salvation Gospel Band.

Many thanks to Lisa Kay of Capitol Park Towers, who was producer, director and organizer of the event. ■



Jenny's
Pick up 1/2 page ad from
June 2001

*Please change date on coupon to
September 30, 2001

*Please make logo PMS 340